

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 167219

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09 EUR-12

FAA-00 IO-14 USIA-15 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02

OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15 USSS-00 SY-05 WRD-01 MCT-01

/140 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:JSGRAVATT:SP

APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:AJWHITE

EUR (INFO)

NEA (INFO)

AF (INFO)

EA (INFO)

ARA (INFO)

FAA:VKROHN

-----106967 190240Z /64

R 182145Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 167219

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, XX

SUBJECT: SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN HIJACK ATTEMPTS - 1ST

HALF OF 1977

1. FAA ISSUED FOLLOWING SECURITY SUMMARY ACS-77-21:

QUOTE: A QUICK REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF WORLDWIDE STATISTICS FOR THE 1ST HALF OF 1977 REVEALS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF AIR CARRIER HIJACK INCIDENTS. THE MAJORITY OF ATTEMPTED HIJACKING WERE AGAINST EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EAST UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 167219

AIR CARRIERS. IN GENERAL, THE PERPETRATORS WERE INDIVIDUALS SEEKING POLITICAL ASYLUM, OR WERE MENTALLY UNBALANCED OR SUICIDAL.

DURING THE 1ST HALF OF 1977, A TOTAL OF 16 HIJACKINGS WERE ATTEMPTED, 7 OF WHICH WERE SUCCESSFUL, COMPARED TO A TOTAL OF 18 HIJACK ATTEMPTS DURING ALL OF CY 1976, 7 OF WHICH WERE

SUCCESSFUL (3 ADDITIONAL HIJACK ATTEMPTS OCCURRED IN JULY 1977 TO DATE).

FURTHER, THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE INDICATES THAT THE MAJORITY OF HIJACKINGS DURING THE 1ST HALF OF 1977 INVOLVED

LONE HIJACKERS COMPARED TO HIJACKING BY GROUPS OF 2 TO 6 INDIVIDUALS WHICH HAS BEEN THE MODUS OPERANDI DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

REPORTEDLY, THE TYPE WEAPONS USED IN THE ATTEMPTED HIJACKING VARIED FROM A RIFLE TO HAND PISTOLS, ALLEGED HAND GRENADES, AND A KNIFE. IN SEVERAL INCIDENTS, TOY GUNS WERE USED. IT IS NOTED THAT TWO ATTEMPTS AGAINST U.S. CARRIERS WERE MADE WITHOUT ACTUAL WEAPONS.

IT APPEARS THAT MOST OF THE WEAPONS INVOLVED WERE INTRODUCED THROUGH THE COURSE OF PASSENGER BOARDING AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN DETECTED AND PREVENTED FROM BOARDING BY EFFECTIVE PASSENGER SCREENING AND CARRY-ON BAGGAGE PROCEDURES. THIS HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED TO ASSURE EFFECTIVE AND ON-GOING SCREENING INCLUDING REEMPHASIS IN TRAINING AND CLOSER SUPERVISION OF SCREENING PERSONNEL. GENERALLY, TIGHTER APPLICATION OF SECURITY MEASURES SHOULD BE APPLIED BY AIR CARRIER AND AIRPORT SECURITY PERSONNEL. IF THIS UPWARD TREND IS ALLOWED TO CONTINUE, THE NUMBER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 167219

OF HIJACK ATTEMPTS FOR 1977 COULD REACH THE HIGH NUMBER OF HIJACKING ATTEMPTS EXPERIENCED DURING THE PEAK YEARS OF 1970-72 AND GREATLY ENDANGER THE LIVES AND SECURITY OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC, AIRLINE CREWS AND OTHER PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF FLIGHT. AIR CARRIER HIJACK ATTEMPTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN 1977 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

DATE	AIR CARRIER	FLIGHT PLAN
------	-------------	-------------

JANUARY 11	TWA	NY,NU/LONDON, ENGLAND
FEBRUARY 13	TURKISH AIRLINE	ISTANBUL/IZMIR, TURKEY
FEBRUARY 14	IBERIA AIRLINE	BARCELONA/PALMA DE

MARCH 17	ALL-NIPPON ARWYS	CHITASE/SENDAI
MARCH 17	ALL-NIPPON ARWYS	TOKYO/SENDAI
MARCH 19	TURKISH AIRLINE	DIYARBAKIR/ANKARA
APRIL 24	LOT	KRACOW/NUEREMBERG
APRIL 25	ETHIOPIAN AIRLINE	MEKELE/GONDER

MAY 2	IBERIA AIRLINE	MADRID/ROME
MAY 8	NWA	TOKYO/HONOLULU

MAY 26 AEROFLOT DONETSK/RIGA
JUNE 6 MIDDLE EAST AIRLINE BEIRUT/BAGHDAD
JUNE 18 BULGARIAN AIRLINE VIDIN/SOFIA
JUNE 21 LAN-CHILE ANTOFAGASTA/SANTIAGO

JUNE 28 LUFTHANSA MUNICH/ISTANBUL
JUNE 29 GULF AIR LONDON/DUBAI
JULY 5 LEDECO AIRLINE ARICA /SANTIAGO

JULY 8 KUWAIT AIRLINE BEIRUT/KUWAIT
JULY 10 AEROFLOT PETROZAVODSK/LENINGRAD

UNQUOTE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 167219

2. AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AND INTERNATIONAL
AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO PASS
THIS INFO TO SECURITY OFFICERS OF MEMBER AIRLINES. THIS
INFORMATION IS ALSO BEING PROVIDED FOR POSTS OWN
INFORMATION AND, UNLESS OBJECTION PERCEIVED, FOR
DISTRIBUTION TO HOST GOVERNMENTS' AUTHORITIES. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE167219
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JS GRAVATT:SP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770267-1122
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770746/aaaabnmg.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 007e1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1826370
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN HIJACK ATTEMPTS - 1ST HALF OF 1977
TAGS: EAIR, XX
To: ALL POSTS BEIRUT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/007e1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009